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798CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~ - CONTROL / US OFFICIALS ONLY 25X1COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany REPORT 25X1TOPIC Finsterwalde Airfields 25X1EVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1DATE OF CONTENT 25X1DATE OBTAINED 25X1 DATE PREPARED 26 July 1950REFERENCES 25X1PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. No aircraft were seen at Finsterwalde (N 52/A 15) airfield between 11:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. Most of the billets at the southern edge of the field were empty. The personnel strength of the airfield was estimated at only 150 men. (1) Within a 50-minute period tank truck 25X1 and trucks 25X1 were seen at the entrance gate to the field. (2)
2. The construction of the runway had progressed. The sheds which had been in the western section of the building site were gone and the western section of the runway appeared completed. About 380 laborers were digging in the eastern section of the field. The eastern section of the runway was not yet surfaced. Four large concrete mixing machines, dump cars, diesel locomotives and cranes were used for the construction work. Building materials arrived on the airfield spur track. Some drainage pipes were lying in the northwestern corner of the field, where a small, windowless hut had been erected. Since this is the lowest point of the landing field the hut may house the pump for the drainage system. Concrete work was being done for either a taxiway or an apron in front of the hangar farthest to the east. Construction work was also under way at the target range southeast of the field. Brick and earth walls were seen. The obstacle lights in the vicinity of the field needed repair. The construction of the runway may be completed in about seven weeks. (3)
3. Five U-2 type biplanes were seen at the improvised airfield at Finsterwalde-West. There was no flying although the weather was good. The planes were probably assigned to a liaison unit. (4)

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- (1) The information that no aircraft are stationed at the Finsterwalde airfield was confirmed by another source on 12 July 1950.

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- (2) [redacted] ground units of a bomber regiment which was previously stationed in Finsterwalde. Elements of the Ground organization were apparently still in Finsterwalde. It is possible that the field will be reoccupied by an air unit after completion of the construction work.
- (3) The construction work is confirmed. [redacted] 25X1

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- [redacted] From the status of the construction work, the information that the runway will be completed in about seven weeks is possible. It is also possible that all of the seven airfields in the Soviet Zone of Germany presently being expanded will be completed about 1 September 1950.
- (4) The presence of five PO-2s at the improvised airfield is confirmed. [redacted] They are probably courier planes of an air force unit.

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